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## THE RULES ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN

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## Mayor asking for dismissal of Wenzel's lawsuit

Shane Homes CEO seeking $6M in damages in defamation case PAGE 4

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# JUSTICE FOR FRANCIS

**Francis Pesa's family joined supporters speaking out against impaired driving. The 20-year-old was killed in a crash on New Year's Day, and a family friend is calling for justice amid police accusations the driver was drunk. See story, page 8.** BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

# Insurance costs rise, rents expected to follow suit in 2014

**'Not sustainable.'**
Alberta insurers paying $1.40 in claims per $1 collected in premiums over last several quarters: IBC

Calgarians seeing massive increases in home-insurance prices so far in 2014 are just the tip of the iceberg and the costs will likely be passed on to renters, as well, according to industry representatives.

Crossroads resident Larry Leach said he was shocked to open his policy renewal package and see how much his insurer now wants to charge, in the wake of last year's devastating floods.

"The water damage is like a 200 per cent increase," Leach said, noting he doesn't live in a low-lying area. "And last year, our entire policy had a $1,000 deductible. Now, the renewal says $1,000 'unless otherwise noted' and under the water endorsement, it's a $2,500 deductible."

**Quoted**

**"It's going to be, I think, a difficult year."**
Gerry Baxter, executive director of the Calgary Residential Rental Association

Leach's experience is far from isolated, according to the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC).

"We've also heard similar stories," said Bill Adams, IBC's vice-president, Western and Pacific. "It's a trend right across Canada but it's probably most acute in Alberta, and it really is just a function of the extent of the extreme weather events we're seeing here."

For decades, Adams said, Alberta has had a disproportionately high level of natural-catastrophe claims, but the last couple of years have been exceptionally bad.

In 2012, the province accounted for 62 per cent of "nat-cat" claim costs across Canada and while the final tally for 2013 isn't done yet, "it's probably going to be around the same," Adams said, largely but not solely due to the June flooding.

"The floods really continued what was a fairly long-term trend in significant increases in claim costs that ultimately need to be paid for," he said.

Expect rents to rise, too, if landlords see increases on the same order as Leach's, said Gerry Baxter, executive director of the Calgary Residential Rental Association.

"In order to stay in business, you have to pass along your costs," Baxter said, noting water-damage coverage is a particularly large component of landlords' insurance bills.

"It's going to be, I think, a difficult year."

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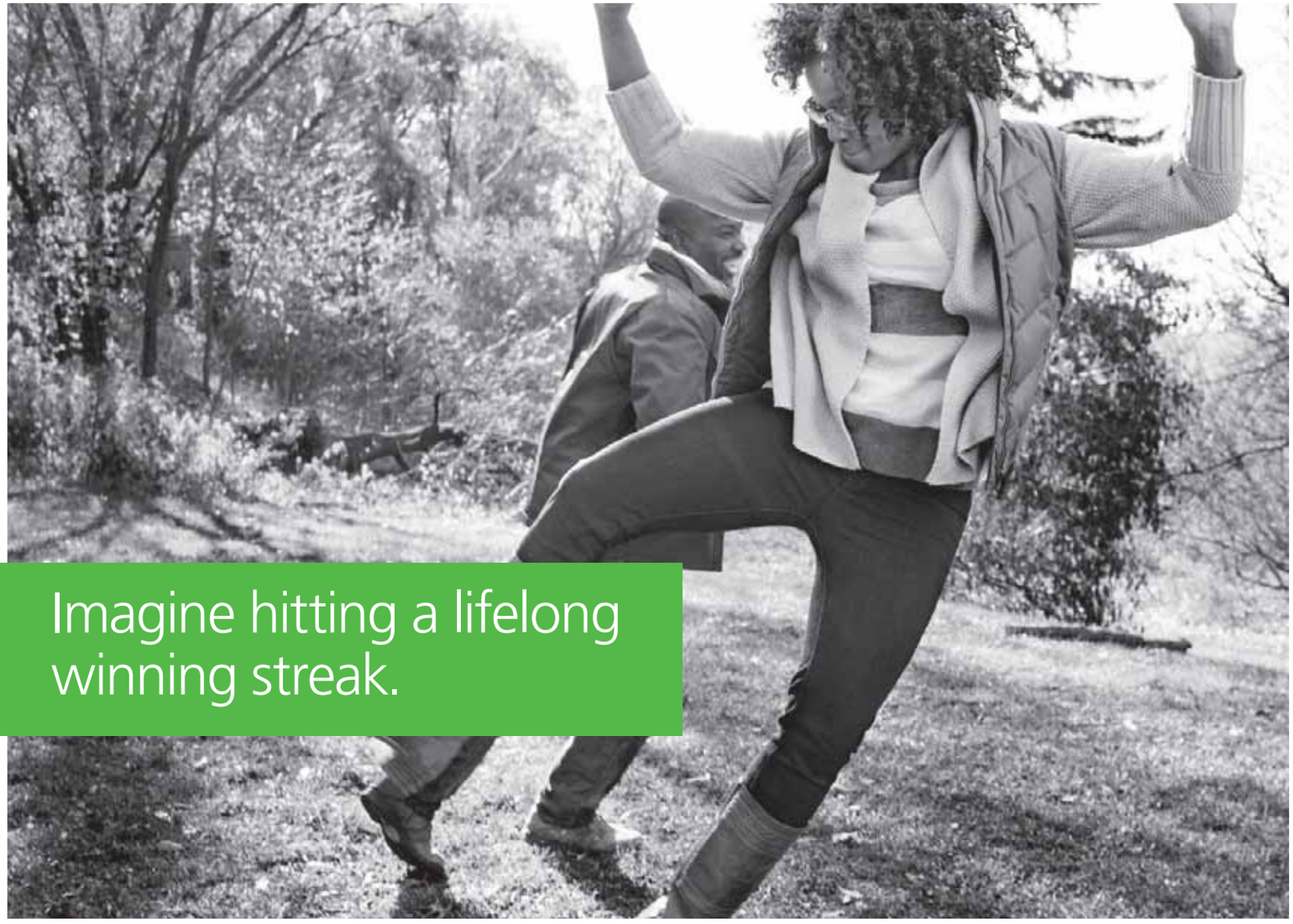

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## Civil war. Calgarian killed in Syria

A Calgary high school dropout has been killed by soldiers with the Free Syrian Army while fighting for a recognized terrorist group, according to a friend's online post.

Damian Clairmont, 22, born in Nova Scotia, is believed to have converted to Islam, joined a force called Jabhat al-Nusra and departed for Syria in 2012 to join efforts to overthrow the government of President Bashar al-Assad.

"My bro … Abu Talba al-Canadi executed by FSA!" wrote Abu Turan al-Muhaljr on Twitter, before posting a photo of Clairmont. Al-Muhaljr added that he "was killed while defending himself and his brothers from the FSA onslaught in Aleppo."

But Canadian Foreign Affairs officials offered no specifics on Clairmont's fate. "We are aware of reports that Canadians have been killed in Syria," said spokesman Jean-Bruno Villeneuve over email.

An unnamed Canadian security source confirmed Clairmont's death to Torstar News Service.

Jabhat al-Nusra has been labelled a terrorist group by the Canadian government for apparent links to al-Qaeda.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO, WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Damian Clairmont FACEBOOK

Elbow Park School, seen here, is slated to be torn down and replaced after suffering severe damage in June's historic flood. The Calgary Heritage Authority has made one last appeal to the province to further assess options to save the school. METRO FILE

# Group rallies to save Elbow Park School

**'Well-loved landmark.'** Parents said to support tearing down flood-damaged facility

Calgary's heritage authority has made a last-ditch pitch to Alberta's premier to review whether a flood-damaged school in her own riding can be spared from the wrecking ball.

Metro was provided letters Wednesday addressed to Alison Redford and Culture Minister Heather Klimchuk claiming a decision by Calgary Board of Education trustees to tear down Elbow Park School circumvents proper process, comes despite having inadequate information and raises questions about the lengths taken to consult the public.

The school saw water pool underneath it causing severe structural damage during June's historic flood. Before voting last week in favour of demolishing the school and rebuilding it, trustees were told that attempts to restore the site could cost up to 55 per cent more.

But Scott Joliffe, who serves as chair of the Calgary Heritage Authority and wrote the letters dated Monday, said the school is listed on Calgary's Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources, along with more than 700 other facilities and, as a result, should be subject to what's known as a "historic resource impact assessment." He hopes that move would provide options for saving the school and definitive costs to do so.

**Primary sources**

**To read letters from the Calgary Heritage Authority to Premier Alison Redford and Alberta Culture Minister Heather Klimchuk, head to metronews.ca**

"We believe that there's not enough data to make an informed decision," he said. "There are only vague references to what it could cost."

Alberta Education Minister Jeff Johnson did say in an interview Sunday his understanding was there were "no guarantees" if an attempt to save the original school was undertaken.

The letters appeared to do little to budge the province into further assessing the school when questioned on the matter Wednesday.

"Elbow Park School is owned by the Calgary Board of Education," said Alberta Education spokeswoman Leanne Niblock in a written statement. "The CBE decided to rebuild, as I understand it, based on the recommendation from their administration and consultations with the community and parents."

Premier Redford is on a trade mission in India and was not available for comment Wednesday afternoon.

But Nathan MacBey, head of the school's parent council, reinforced that his members were consulted, adding they offered "overwhelming" support for rebuilding the school.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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# The Nenshi defence

**High stakes.** Wenzel seeking $6M in damages, twice the largest defamation award ever handed out by a Canadian court; mayor's defence seeks outright dismissal

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Mayor Naheed Nenshi did not defame Shane Homes CEO Cal Wenzel and Wenzel should cover his legal costs, according to the mayor's statement of defence.

The 40-page document, filed in court late Tuesday, argues comments the mayor made about Weznel in media interviews were justified or fell under the realm of fair comment and were made "in good faith and without malice upon true facts, on matters of public interest."

The defence comes in response to the $6-million defamation lawsuit Wenzel filed on Nov. 13, which alleges Nenshi damaged Wenzel's reputation during the 2013 municipal election campaign in an attempt to make him a political foil.

The comments stemmed from the now-infamous leaked video of Wenzel, in which he appears to be talking with others in his industry about how to get like-minded members elected to city council.

The defamation suit highlights, in particular, Nenshi's allegation that Wenzel broke election financing laws and the mayor's comparison of Wenzel to the Mafia leader in the movie The Godfather.

In his statement of claim, Wenzel said Nenshi's comments caused "real and substantial" harm to his reputation that "demands legal redress."

Wenzel has described the $6 million in penalties he is seeking as "commensurate with the damage done to my character and reputation," but added he would donate any money the court awards to charity.

Nenshi's statement of defence, however, called the $6-million figure "excessive" and described the lawsuit as an attempt to stifle public discussion.

"Wenzel's conduct in this regard is improper, scandalous, abusive of this Court's process, amounts to frivolous and vexatious litigation and is deserving of sanction in the form of costs on a solicitor and client basis," the statement reads.

Both Nenshi and Wenzel have declined further comment while the matter is before the court.

None of the allegations on either side has been proven in court.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi denies defaming Shane Homes CEO Cal Wenzel in his official statement of defence to Wenzel's lawsuit. METRO FILE

**Quoted**

**"Mayor Nenshi states that (Cal) Wenzel is commonly known and referred to as 'the godfather' in public."**

Section 49 of the mayor's statement of defence, which cites as evidence tweets from two people, including one from Cal Wenzel's son, referring to him as 'the godfather'

# Concussion fears dribbling into minor soccer

Daryl Leinweber, executive director of the Calgary Minor Soccer Association
METRO FILE

Calgary's minor soccer association is taking a head-on approach to combating concussions in the sport.

While soccer has often been classified a non-contact sport, local officials have now been told anywhere between one and four youngsters per team suffer brain-jarring knocks.

With that in mind, officials are bringing in a Calgary Stampeder-turned-chiropractor for a session on recognizing severe head blows.

Association head Daryl Leinweber acknowledged soccer is still catching up to groundbreaking research being done around concussions in other sports — including hockey studies from the University of Calgary.

"We're just now opening the door," said Leinweber, executive director of the Calgary Minor Soccer Association.

Roughly 50 minor league coaches and managers are scheduled to meet Jan. 22.

The conference booked up in under three days, demonstrating what Leinweber described as heightened awareness due to "the Sidney Crosby effect."

The hockey superstar was sidelined with a concussion in the 2010-11 season.

"We didn't recognize what a concussion was four years ago," Leinweber said. "I think today we're seeing much more recognition around it."

John Battershill, a six-year football pro, will be leading the January presentation.

In an interview, Battershill stressed the importance of recognizing brain injuries before players return to the pitch.

"If they go back into the competition and get hit again — it's life-threatening," he said.

Battershill cited goalpost run-ins, head-to-head contact and ball-versus-head impact as the leading causes of concussions.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

**Student assessment**

## Report card changes drive elementary teachers to 'absolute tears'

School administrators and teachers aren't withholding information from parents about changes to Calgary public school report cards — frankly, because they have little to share, a representative told frustrated parents Wednesday evening.

The comments came during a meeting hosted by the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC) to discuss changes to student assessment. The Calgary Board of Education previously held off in the fall on broad introduction of word-based report cards that used terms like "emerging" and "evident" to assess students in place of traditional letter or numerical grades. Parent comments would also be removed from the report cards, but officials said more encouragement would be put on face-to-face meetings between teachers and parents.

But while CBE officials have repeatedly told parents to consult with teachers and principals about potential changes at their school, Heide Doppmeier, vice-president of the Alberta Teachers Association Local 38, said they've only had limited input on the matter and it's leading to a great deal of stress.

"This is what's driving our elementary teachers to absolute tears," Doppmeier told the crowd of a few dozen. "So, if you guys are frustrated, trust us, you're not alone."

CBE senior officials were supposed to present at the CAPSC meeting on the future changes to report cards, but pulled out last-minute because timing wasn't "optimal," said trustee Amber Stewart, who also serves as CAPSC liaison.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Tim Richter, CEO of the Calgary-based Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, says housing issues fall to no level of government in particular, but all "have a role to play." METRO FILE

# Government co-operation urged on housing crunch

**Up in the air.** Federal funding commitments need to be more predictable, Calgary councillor says

Now more than ever, Calgary's lack of affordable housing needs to be cohesively addressed by all levels of government, according to local advocates.

"We have an absolutely acute shortage of affordable rental housing," said Tim Richter, CEO of the Calgary-based Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness. "Rental housing generally is hard to come by and it's getting even harder to afford, so that is an absolutely critical piece of the puzzle."

**City motion**

- In its 2013 budget, the federal government did devote $253 million per year over five years to affordable housing, according to a statement.
- The motion approved by Calgary city council, however, calls on Ottawa to develop a "long-term plan for housing that ... protects Canadians from the planned expiry of $1.7 billion in social-housing agreements."

One of the persistent challenges in addressing the issue, he added, is that "it doesn't sit as a responsibility with any particular level of government.

"It's not wholly provincial, it's not municipal, it's not necessarily federal, but they all have a role to play."

In that vein, city council unanimously approved a motion this week calling on the federal government to re-focus its attention on housing issues, especially as $1.7 billion in social-housing agreements are set to start expiring this year.

"It's sad, but the very first thing that we're trying to do is let the federal government know that these agreements are expiring," said Coun. Brian Pincott, who put forward the motion. "It's not top of mind for them, so we're working to let them know that."

Federal dollars support 600,000 units of subsidized housing in Canada, he added, including about 10,000 in Calgary. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

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## Forced deal ahead. AUPE chief not impressed by government's latest offer

The head of Alberta's largest public-sector union says while the province has improved its latest contract offer, it's going to have to do a lot better.

"The latest proposal from the government was marginally better … but it doesn't even come close to meeting the needs that we're seeking for our members," said Guy Smith, president of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees.

"It's still a bad deal that we're not willing to accept."

Negotiators for both sides resumed talks this week, just two weeks before a legislated deal is to kick in.

The Public Service Salary Restraint Act has been the focus of anger since it was passed last month. The legislation will impose a contract on AUPE if it doesn't agree with the province by the end of January.

Smith said he wonders if the province is even committed to bargaining, now that the legislated contract is looming. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Get missed?**

### Garbage pickup coming, city swears

City of Calgary officials say thawing of snow and ice has led to delays with garbage and recycling pickup and encourage residents whose blue and black bins were missed Wednesday to leave them out.

"Waste and recycling services will do our best to reach everyone where possible," the city said in a statement.

"We will continue to monitor the conditions and will provide an update if we expect delays to the Thursday or Friday (garbage pickup) schedules." METRO

# Impaired driving adds yet another name to its tally

Francis Pesa's relatives gather at police HQ. There, a family friend and MADD representative spoke out against impaired driving. BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

## Francis Pesa. Friends and supporters decry loss of young man as tragic and pointless

Bereaved relatives of Francis Pesa wept softly Wednesday as supporters around them denounced impaired driving.

Rizalyn Reyes told reporters there are "complex layers" to the tragedy involving the selfless 20-year-old and his family.

On the day he was killed in a head-on crash, Pesa and his family had just returned home from the typhoon-ravaged Philippines, where at least 40 relatives were killed by the tropical cyclone known as Haiyan.

"It was their first time going to the Philippines since they moved to Canada 10 years ago," Reyes said.

Pesa suffered fatal injuries on Jan. 1 when police say a pickup truck crossed the centre line and struck his car.

He was remembered Wednesday as a big-hearted man who enjoyed sewing, cooking and learning. After his death, the Pesa family learned Francis was "that guy" who always gave partied-out friends a sober ride home.

Tracy Franklin, past president of MADD's Calgary chapter, added her voice to the family's calls to crack down on impaired drivers.

"It is 100 per cent preventable, and we need to stop it," said Franklin.

Kulwinder Singh Chohan, 36, faces impaired-driving charges in connection.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

**Senseless**

**"It is 100 per cent preventable, and we need to stop it."**

Tracy Franklin, past president of MADD's Calgary chapter

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**It's believed 35 investigations have been successfully concluded as a result of the collaborative effort.**

For years, Airdrie resident Bradley O'Neil lived large on refunds belonging to others.

He ran a company called International Tax Refund Services that offered to pursue GST rebates offered to U.S. citizens spending their money north of the border. There was just one problem: O'Neil's customers rarely, if ever, received a dime.

Last year, O'Neil began serving a five-year prison sentence after being convicted of both fraud and theft in relation to his efforts, which are believed to have yielded $3.6 million.

Officials say it's likely O'Neil wouldn't have been charged if not for a cross-border partnership involving the Alberta government, provincial and American law-enforcement officials and other partners, including Canada Post.

"It was a fight," said Greg Lepp, provincial assistant deputy minister of justice. "We took it to trial, we took it to appeal … the message was sent that we're not going to tolerate that sort of behaviour."

On Wednesday, members from each organization gathered to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the co-operative, officially called The Alberta Partnership Against Cross Border Fraud.

Charles Harwood, a regional director with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, said the initiative came amid a surge in fraudulent activities occurring on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border and involving residents travelling outside their home country. "It was a matter of grave concern — both to us and law enforcement here in Alberta," he said.

# YEG. Airport staff disciplined after man found with explosives

The agency responsible for airport screening says its staff made a mistake when they confiscated an explosive device from a passenger's bag but let the young man get on a plane rather than calling police.

Mathieu Larocque, spokesman for the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA), said staff in Edmonton should have contacted police right away, not four days later.

He said a review was conducted after the incident last fall and some screening employees were suspended.

"There were people disciplined and they were required to take extra training," Larocque said Wednesday. "The procedure is to call the police and it didn't happen or it happened very late in the process."

News of the foul-up only made headlines this week. Federal Transport Minister Lisa Raitt issued a statement earlier Wednesday calling the incident unacceptable.

"The safety of Canadians and the travelling public is our government's top priority," Raitt said. "This individual should not have been allowed to board his flight, and it is unacceptable that CATSA waited four days before seeking the RCMP's assistance."

Lisa Raitt THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

She said she planned to call the president of the agency to discuss the matter further.

Skylar Murphy, 19, of Spruce Grove, Alta., pleaded guilty last month to possession of an explosive substance while at the Edmonton airport on Sept. 20, 2013. He was sentenced to a year of probation and fined $100. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Expect pension talk**

## Alberta legislature to begin spring sitting with throne speech on March 3

Alberta politicians are to return to work in the legislature for the spring sitting on March 3.

The sitting is scheduled to run into the first week of June and will include the 2014-15 budget.

It begins with a speech from the throne.

The government has not announced what key legislation will be introduced during the sitting.

But Finance Minister Doug Horner says there will be bills to amend legislation on pensions for public service workers.

The province plans to tighten up pension plans to avoid problems such as the current $7.4 billion in unfunded liabilities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Prismatic**

## Katy Perry coming to town

That's what you get for wakin' up in Calgary on Aug. 29. According to promoter Live Nation, pop superstar Katy Perry will play at the Scotiabank Saddledome as part of her Prismatic World Tour. The four-month, 46-city tour will have eight Canadian stops. METRO

**Return expected Monday**

## NW CTrain still offline

Damage to overhead power lines forced CTrain service between Crowfoot and Dalhousie Stations to remain offline Wednesday. Transit crews are working on a temporary solution that will allow a train to run on a single track for Thursday and Friday and shuttle buses are being run to assist commuters, officials said.

The cause of the damage is still being determined. Full service is expected to return Monday. METRO

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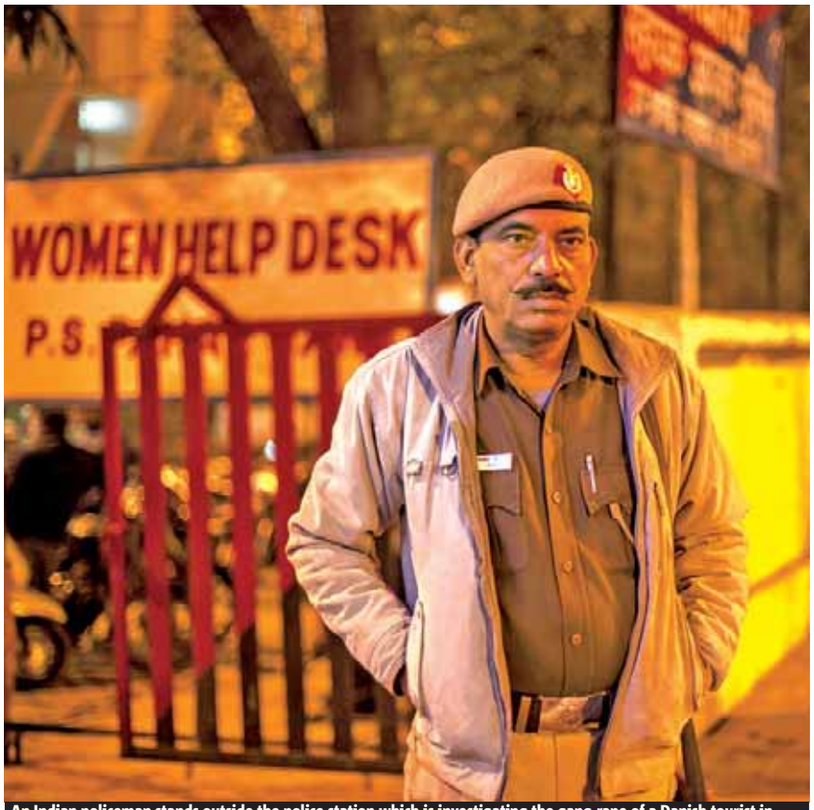


An Indian policeman stands outside the police station which is investigating the gang-rape of a Danish tourist in New Delhi, India, Wednesday. TSERING TOPGYAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Indian police say Danish tourist gang-raped in New Delhi

**Lured to a secluded area.** Brutal attack is the latest crime to bring attention to sexual violence in the country

A 51-year-old Danish tourist was gang-raped near a popular shopping area in New Delhi after she approached a group of men for directions, police said Wednesday.

Police spokesman Rajan Bhagat said two people were arrested after a daylong search for the suspects.

The woman also was robbed and beaten in the attack, which happened Tuesday near Connaught Place, Bhagat said. The attack is the latest crime to focus attention on the scourge of sexual violence in India.

**Sexual violence**

**The problem of sexual violence in India has gained widespread attention since the gang rape and murder of a 23-year-old woman on a bus in December 2012.**

- Public fury over the case has led to more stringent laws that doubled prison terms for rape to 20 years and criminalized voyeurism and stalking.

The woman asked the men for directions to her hotel, Bhagat said. They lured her to a secluded area where they raped her at knifepoint, according to the Press Trust of India.

The woman managed to reach her hotel Tuesday evening and the owner called police.

"When she came, it was miserable," said Amit Bahl, owner of the Amax hotel in the Paharganj area. The woman was crying and "not in good shape," he said.

"I am really ashamed that this happened," said Bahl, who sounded shaken.

The woman, whose name was not released, was on her way back to Denmark, said Ole Egberg Mikkelsen, head of the Danish Foreign Ministry's consular department in Copenhagen, which handles cases involving Danes abroad.

Egberg Mikkelsen said the woman had received assistance from Indian and Danish authorities, and that her next of kin had been contacted.

An Indian police official said the woman boarded a flight home Wednesday morning. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# For the Queen. Chocolate castle, enamelled beetles among unusual gifts

Queen Elizabeth II received dozens of traditional gifts last year — but she also got some unusual items.

The High Commissioner for Bangladesh gave the Queen four enamelled Scarab beetles, and Sri Lanka's president chose a portrait of the monarch burned onto a tree trunk. The maker of Mars Bars gave her a chocolate version of Windsor Castle.

Some of the more lavish items included a family photograph in a gold frame set on a jeweled ostrich egg and a five-strand pearl necklace, given by the president of the United Arab Emirates.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**With love, from Canada**

- The Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan gave Queen Elizabeth a diamond and tourmaline brooch last year.
- A Canadian artist presented Princess Anne an art print of the Queen's daughter riding a moose.

**New York**

## Kittens break into max security jail

A litter of four kittens has found a cosy home in the least cosy of places — the basement of the maximum-security Great Meadow prison in Fort Ann in upstate New York.

The family of feral felines has been cared for by inmates and prison staff. Head electrician Bruce Porter arrives at work early so he can tend to the cats, which live in a large cage built by an inmate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Sharing food makes the heart grow fonder, at least in chimps

Two chimpanzees share a piece of watermelon at Taronga Zoo in Sydney, Australia. RICK STEVENS-TARONGA ZOO/GETTY IMAGES FILE

**Love hormone.** Study found both the giver and receiver of food had higher levels of oxytocin, indicating sharing makes both parties feel good

A study published Wednesday appears to confirm that friendships are forged at mealtimes, at least for our closest living relatives.

Scientists from Germany, Switzerland, Britain and the United States have found that chimpanzees who share their food have higher levels of oxytocin, known as the love hormone, than those who don't.

Oxytocin has previously been linked to bonding between mothers and their breastfeeding babies, both in primates and humans.

Roman Wittig of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, said chimpanzees had more than twice the level of oxytocin after sharing food than after mutual grooming — another important bonding behaviour in primates.

Julia Lehmann, an evolutionary anthropologist, said the results appear to support the idea that food sharing can extend social benefits normally found in animals who are related to each other to those dining partners who aren't related. In other words, the way to a chimp's heart is through its stomach.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Quoted**

**"We think food sharing can help spark new friendships, whereas grooming is more for confirmation of existing relationships."**

Roman Wittig, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany


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# Hempology 101. Club riles UBC student admin with weed vapourizer party

Ain't no party like a UBC vapour party — because that's the kind of party that can get you expelled.

Student administrators at the University of British Columbia are investigating the campus's Hempology 101 club for holding an indoor 4:20 meeting last week enticing people to "stay dry and get high" in the Student Union Building (SUB).

Club treasurer Corbin Manson did not respond to repeated interview requests from Metro, but after he spoke to the UBC student newspaper, the club posted a statement on its website calling the party "wildly successful."

"I want to set the record straight: There is no conclusive evidence that Hempology 101 has broken any laws," wrote one of the executives (it is unclear which one).

A staffer reaches for a vapourizer Wednesday at B.C. Marijuana Party headquarters in Vancouver. KATE WEBB/METRO

The student paper, The Ubyssey, reported that 25 people attended the meeting and a towel was placed under the door to keep the vapour in.

KATE WEBB/METRO IN VANCOUVER

# Ratapooey. Urban rodents carry diarrhea-causing bacteria: Study

Just when you thought the reputation of urban rats couldn't sink any lower, new research has proven the critters carry bacteria that causes diarrhea in humans.

B.C. scientists found Clostridium difficile in the poop of 13 per cent of Rattus rattus and Rattus norvegicus in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver, according to research published in the Journal of Applied and Environmental Microbiology in December.

C. difficile causes diarrhea and intestinal disease in people, especially children and pets. While the study doesn't show whether rats can actually transmit the bacteria to people or other animals, it's the first to investigate whether the pests carry more than just the plague.

The research is part of the Vancouver Rat Project, the first study in Canada to research urban rat populations to see if they pose a health risk.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

## Justices waver on protest-free zone rules at abortion clinics

Alan Hoyle, of Lincolnton, N.C., stands outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. The court heard arguments on the regulation of protests at abortion clinics and seemed likely Wednesday to strike down a Massachusetts law setting a 10-metre protest-free zone outside clinics. Liberal and conservative justices alike expressed misgivings about the law during arguments at the high court. They questioned the size of the zone and whether the state could find less restrictive ways of ensuring patient access and safety. EVAN VUCCI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Google showing illegal web ads

**Upgrades coming.** Canada's privacy commissioner is also pushing the company to make it easier for consumers to be heard

Google has been caught afoul of the law by displaying web ads linked to a person's health history, according to Canada's interim privacy commissioner Chantal Bernier.

An investigation by Bernier's office backed up a man's complaints that he was seeing so-called behavioural advertisements based on his web browsing history. After searching for information about devices to treat sleep apnea, he began to see ads for those devices as he browsed the web.

While behavioural advertising is not illegal, Canada's privacy law does not allow consumers to be targeted based on "sensitive personal information," including their health.

Google's privacy policy outlaws displaying advertisements based on race, religion, sexual orientation or health. But the Mountain View, Calif.-based company acknowledged that some advertisers using its ad-serving platform were not following the policy.

Google has pledged to upgrade the system that reviews ads for compliance, increase the monitoring of ads and provide more information to advertisers and staff about the rules.

"The monitoring system was not tight enough, not robust enough to ensure compliance, it wasn't extensive enough to deal with the volume of ads," said Bernier in an interview.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Your country needs you ... to lose some weight

**Best and brightest, but not always lightest.**
Police units and armies struggle to find recruits who are fighting fit

ELISABETH BRAW
Metro World News in London, U.K.

Recently Mike Harper ran into the wife of a police officer friend on a Dallas street.

"She told me she was worried about his safety because his colleagues are overweight," he recalls.

The wife had good reason to be concerned. Even though American police officers should be fitter than average, a comprehensive study reports that they're less fit than half of the population.

"They have to be able to crawl and run," notes Harper, a fitness educator in charge of police and military programs at the Cooper Institute in Dallas.

"These are not tasks that you do every day, but it's critical that you're able to do them. It's like using a firearm. You don't need it every day, but when you do need it, it's essential that you know how."

And police officers are not the only ones with a weight problem. According to Lt.-Gen. Mark Hertling, no less than 75 per cent of civilians wanting to join the U.S. Army are ineligible due to being overweight.

And "of the 25 per cent that could join, what we found was 65 per cent could not pass the (physical training) test on the first day," he said in a speech.

"Young people joining our service could not run, jump, tumble or roll. These are the kind of things you would expect soldiers to do if you're in combat."

According to the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, between 1959 and 2008 the percentage of men who were ineligible for military service because of their weight doubled, while the percentage of ineligible women tripled.

Even though Hollywood portrays army physical training as extremely gruelling, the fitness test for new soldiers is surprisingly low.

"Fifty push-ups, 40 sit-ups and a 1.5-mile run in less than 10 minutes," notes Stew Smith, a former Navy SEAL who now runs a fitness company for soldiers and officers.

Now armed forces and law-enforcement agencies are getting serious about fitness, enlisting companies like Smith's and the Cooper Institute to train their staff. Some, like the British Army, have even developed apps to help applicants get fit. In fact, many former elite soldiers have discovered a business niche in fitness companies.

However, fitness apps won't really make a difference, observes Smith.

"The police and military do their best with what society brings them, but this is a society-wide problem. A financially struggling population will keep eating crappy, inexpensive food."

**Fat chance: While experts contend that police officers should be in prime physical state, in truth they have the same weight problem as the rest of the population.** GETTY IMAGES

**Stew squat: Former Navy SEAL turned fitness instructor Stew Smith puts police officers through a squatting exercise.** COURTESY STEW SMITH

**Russia**

## *Rotund get rejected*

In recent years, Russia's much-maligned police force has been trying to revamp its image, including tackling obesity among officers.

"The fat and paunchy will not get through," former interior minister Rashid Nurgaliyev said in 2011.

The force was literally slimmed down by 20 per cent. Police are now obliged to pass physical tests, with top performers getting a bonus salary. **EVGENIY MORUZ/ METRO WORLD NEWS IN MOSCOW**

# Canadian Forces work with what they've got

It's hard enough to attract recruits to the Canadian military or police forces without worrying about fitness.

An internal Defence Department audit released last year noted that "fitness and education levels of recruits in the last five years have been slightly lower than in the past," when compounded with other factors such as mobility, changing career expectations and an aging workforce.

Recent reports show that American police and armed forces are struggling to find new recruits who satisfy the weight restriction.

It's slowly becoming the case in Canada too. The Canadian Forces have been adapting their application process to accommodate its changing applicant pool.

In 2006, the military eliminated the Canadian Forces Applicant Physical Fitness Test as a pre-enrolment screening process, with some exceptions.

Instead of a physical test right off the bat, the evaluation is done once they've been admitted to basic training. The three per cent that fail are not disqualified — rather, they are given the option to join the 90-day Warrior Fitness Training Program.

Recruits who get in shape within the 90 days are returned to basic training.

But the changes don't necessarily mean the Canadian Forces are lowering their standards to bring in more recruits, according to Christian Leuprecht, a Royal Military College and Queen's University professor who has spent years studying military demographics and recruitment.

"I think it's important to realize — just like the way companies can't expect the people who wander through the front door to have all the skills that a company might need and that a company invests in training — the Armed Forces look at the potential that the candidates bring rather than necessarily candidates that already have all the physical attributes that the organization is looking for," he said.

**PHOEBE HO/FOR METRO IN TORONTO**

**True calibre**

**"I think the challenge is not necessarily recruiting the numbers. I think the challenge is recruiting the quality of individual that the Canadian Armed Forces is looking for."**

Christian Leuprecht, Royal Military College and Queen's University professor

# Has Colorado gone to pot?

**High prices a buzzkill.** While legal marijuana dispensaries bring in the green, issues have blunted enthusiasm

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News

There has been a party atmosphere around Colorado's marijuana dispensaries since recreational sales became legal at the turn of the year.

"People have been queuing for four to five hours," says Ryan West, an employee at a Denver dispensary. "Everyone is so excited and proud to be in the first state to legalize, and there is so much room to grow."

West is a product of that growth, hired on Jan. 1 to cope with a boom that saw sales of more than $5 million inside the first week.

Fewer than 200 dispensaries are licensed to sell the drug for recreational use and that number is set to rise, while related industries such as "weed tourism" are also growing rapidly.

But there have been unintended consequences, with prices more than doubling in some cases to more than $400 US an ounce (28 grams). This is far higher than the rates of illegal dealers, allowing them to compete, despite the claims of marijuana advocates that a legal industry would replace the black market.

Illegal dealers are also benefitting from police confusion over new laws that have seen an 80 per cent drop in prosecutions since 2012, including for distribution.

"Law enforcement feels like they don't know which way to turn," Tom Raynes, executive director of the Colorado District Attorneys' Council, told the Denver Post.

Campaigners supporting legalization believe these issues are temporary glitches.

"There has been historic demand at a historic moment, but as the number of licenses grow the demand and price will settle," Taylor West, deputy director of the National Cannabis Industry Association, told Metro.

"At that point the underground market will become obsolete."

But the industry faces structural difficulties. Banks are currently forbidden from holding money generated through drug sales, forcing businesses to operate in cash, which demands more labor and risk. They are also denied tax advantages of other businesses through a gap between state and federal law.

**Laws sprouting like weeds**

**Further states are expected to legalize recreational sales, with Oregon likely to be next. But Colorado has shown the complications as well as the potential.**

Sam Walsh, left, a budtender, and facility manager David Martinez set up marijuana products at the 3D Denver's Discrete Dispensary. GETTY IMAGES FILE

**Market Minute**

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**OIL** $94.17 US (+ $1.58)

**GOLD** $1,238.30 US (-$7.10)

# THE EH-LIST: THE BEST OF CANADA

HE SAYS

**John Mazerolle**
metronews.ca

It's time to thank everyone you know, strike up the band (mid-sentence) and put one foot in front of the other, before a smiling woman in heels points out you're walking in the wrong direction.

Yes, it's awards season. I'd have described it better, but I didn't think I'd be called upon for this honour so I didn't prepare anything.

The Golden Globes have been handed out, the Oscar nominations were announced today, and The Canadian Screen Awards are back one year after they first combined the Genies and the Geminis into the coveted Geminenies.

The CSAs seemed to meet our country's high standards, which is why I was excited to have full, exclusive access to this year's show, which was pre-recorded yesterday and remains distinctly Canadian despite some faint U.S. echoes:

**Red carpet**. Oh, my. The recurring themes this year were boots and Roots! And you've never seen such an array of plaid. I don't want to give away who everyone was wearing, but let's just say it was a very good year for French designer Jacques Cousteau.

**In memoriam**. A video montage of all the great entertainers we lost in 2013 is intercut with smug Canucks saying, "They were Canadian, y'know" at every opportunity.

**Orchestra pit.** By law, 40 per cent of the orchestra's play-off music was CanCon. Also by law, 40 per cent of that was New Orleans is Sinking.

**Lifetime achievement award.** The City of Toronto was honoured for its recurring, lifelong film portrayal of Chicago.

**Big Winners.** I'm sworn to secrecy or the Trailer Park Boys will mess me up, but here are the top contenders:

**Gravity Canada:** Same as the American version, except Perfect Human and Everyastronaut Chris Hadfield plays the George Clooney role, meaning nobody dies, none of the space stations are destroyed, and he puts the satellites back together while holding a video town hall with schoolchildren in Sarnia.

**Canadian Hustle:** One hundred and thirty eight minutes of Mike Duffy coverage, captured in the tagline, "If you thought cameras weren't allowed in the Canadian Senate, think again."

**Blue is the Coldest Colour:** Set during February in Edmonton, the movie's lesbian love scenes aren't much to look at because they happen under 27 layers of blankets.

**Her, eh?:** A lonely writer falls in love with his BlackBerry. She loses most of her self-worth and he moves on to his new girlfriend Siri after a couple of weeks.

**Conrad Black:** Protracted Constitutional to Freedom: This stirring story brought to you with funding from Conrad Black deals with one of Canada's greatest heros as he struggles valiantly against oppression, including being thrown in jail and even stripped of his nationality. Each ticket-holder is given a dictionary and thesaurus upon entrance.

That's my sneak peek, Canada! I have very little time left but I'd just like to thank —

(New Orleans is Sinking.)

Aw, nuts. Sorry.

ZOOM

## Sending up some protection

CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY IMAGES

### Anti-NK balloons fly over border

North Korean defectors, including former soldiers, release prophylactic-shaped balloons due to fly to the North, carrying leaflets condemning North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

Letters on the balloons at the rally near the demilitarized zone between the two Koreas read: "End the world's worst three-generation dictatorship." METRO

**By the numbers**

**500,000**
Anti-North Korea pamphlets.

**1,500**
USB flash drives loaded with the Korean-language version of the online encyclopedia Wikipedia.

**1,000**
United States one dollar bills and DVDs detailing human rights abuses in the North.

**Activist's viewpoint**

"There is clearly enormous hunger for outside information in North Korea. USB keys are one of the most powerful tools, because they're small, can be hidden and shared easily, and carry massive amounts of data."

Thor Halvorssen, president of the U.S.-based Human Rights Foundation

Sending a signal: Around 50 tiny transistor radios were also included in the floating packages headed to North Korea.
CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY IMAGES

Clickbait

IRENE KUAN
Metro Online

**Wasting time surfing the web shouldn't be a regular activity but sometimes, you just have to. Here are some sites that I guarantee: Just one click will get you hooked.**

SCREEN GRAB

**ChinaSMACK:** A website devoted to news about the world's most populous country is bound to be fascinating. Founded in 2008, ChinaSMACK posts stories found in Chinese media that are trending on microblogging sites like Weibo. Most of the articles have been translated from Chinese to English, so the quality of the writing isn't great, but you won't care once you start reading some of the crazy stories being talked about amongst Chinese netizens. Learn what a "human flesh search" is.

**Distractify:** One of the newer entries on the web, this site is similar to Buzzfeed, often posting entertaining, albeit useless articles. Wouldn't you like to learn about 'The 29 most infuriating things EVER?' Business Insider has called Distractify one of the fastest growing sites ever, with over 10 million Facebook shares since its launch in October.

**Upworthy:** This social media site posts viral articles that encourage debate amongst its readers. They say they will not clutter the site with "pageview-juking slideshows," but do admit the site is biased, hence "speaking the truth." It can get a little spammy with pop-up ads, since they don't make any actual money yet.

Twitter

**Google is in trouble for ads based on health info searches. @metropicks asked: Do ads like this make you feel violated?**

**@RobbieRobb:** If I search online for anything I expect it to be fair game for advertising.

**@Russell_Barth:** google is YET to suggust any Medical Marijuana products or sites, oddly....

Comments

**RE: New facial recognition app 'creepy', says kids entertainer Raffi, published online Jan. 10**

Facial recog is only getting better and will never go away. The moment we sent our single photo to the cloud, our faces became public property, worse, all your info and images on FB belong to that company, meaning that they can even sell them if they so wish

**johnnyive, posted to metronews.ca**

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 21

# Despite the weather Xing is loving Canada, relishing his Romeo role

**Romeo and Juliet.** Royal Winnipeg Ballet guest artist from China has the talent and determination to wow any audience

BACKSTAGE PASS
Lisa Wilton
calgary@metronews.ca

Liang Xing picked quite the winter to call Canada home.

"I heard some people saying this was the worst winter weather they'd seen," says the Royal Winnipeg Ballet dancer with a laugh.

Record dumps of snow and bone-chilling deep freezes aside, the 25-year-old says he's loved his past six months in the country and is excited to see other parts of Western Canada during the RWB's current tour.

Xing stars as Romeo in the ballet company's latest production of Romeo + Juliet, which makes a stop at the Jubilee Auditorium this weekend. The show also features Alberta-born principal dancer Amanda Green in the role of Juliet.

Xing says he first heard of Shakespeare's famous tragedy as child in China and was excited to get the chance to portray one of literature's most famous characters — or at least a plieing, entrechat-ing version of one of literature's most famous characters.

"I'm so loving (playing Romeo)," he says. "It's great for me. It's amazing, this story touches your soul and makes you cry, and it's different from classical ballet."

Xing, who started training at the Beijing Dance Academy at the age of 10 before joining the National Ballet of China in 2007 and becoming one of its principal dancers four years later, admits one of his main challenges in Romeo + Juliet is using only his movements and facial expressions to convince audiences he really is a lovestruck teenager.

"For me, it's hard because I need to show the audience that I'm the real Romeo," he explains.

"I want to make it true and I have to use my body and my acting for it to make sense for the audience. We cannot speak, so I just use my body. That's the difference with ballet, it uses your body to transform the way you speak to the audience. And the music is great.

"It's the perfect music to an amazing story and I think it helps the story make more sense. The music will tell you how to act and how to be the real Romeo and what is fitting at a certain moment."

**Profile and details**

- **Guest artist.** Liang Xing is the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's guest artist for the 2013/2014 season. He's danced lead roles in such productions as The Nutcracker, The Peony Pavilion and the Pink Floyd Ballet.
- **Achievements.** Xing won silver at the Shanghai International Ballet Competition in 2007, as well as the silver prize at the Moscow International Ballet Competition in 2009.
- **Dates and tickets.** Romeo + Juliet runs at the Jubilee Auditorium Jan. 17 to 19 before heading to Edmonton, Medicine Hat, Kelowna and Vancouver. Tickets can be purchased online through Ticketmaster.ca or at any Ticketmaster location.

Chinese dancer Liang Xing stars as Romeo alongside Alberta's Amanda Green in the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's production of Romeo + Juliet, which runs at the Jubilee Auditorium this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

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# Prolific Wolf premieres latest cop drama, still finds time to write a book

Jason Beghe and Sophia Bush in a scene from Chicago P.D. NBC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Chicago P.D.** Veteran producer shows no signs of slowing down with high hopes for newest shows

Hours before last week's premiere of his new series, Chicago P.D., Dick Wolf acknowledged he was nervous. Actually, "terrified" was the word he used.

This from a TV impresario whose credits include the hydra-headed Law & Order franchise and whose shows have been a prime-time mainstay every season for a quarter-century.

The morning after it premiered, Wolf would learn that a solid 8.6 million viewers had tuned in.

Airing Wednesdays on Global at 10 p.m. ET/PT, the show is centred around the Chicago Police Department's scrappy Intelligence Unit; the series pits Detective Sgt. Hank Voight and his team against the worst killers, drug traffickers and mobsters the Windy City can deliver.

A righteous cop who plays dirty when he needs to, Voight is in good hands with series star Jason Beghe in a portrayal that began on last season's Chicago Fire, an action drama about big-city firefighters, which is midway through its second robust season. (Chicago Fire airs Tuesdays on Global at 10 p.m. ET/PT.)

At 67, Wolf is a veteran producer whose resumé reaches back to Miami Vice in the mid-1980s, and who, through much of the past two decades, kept the lights on at NBC when it had little else anybody would watch.

His métier is the full-scale broadcast network drama spanning a season of two dozen self-contained episodes, and with it he prospers, even now in an era when edgy cable fare in serialized gulps of a dozen or fewer hours commands much of TV's buzz and critical acclaim.

Wolf drew an analogy between the indie-film model of these cable-TV series as compared with broadcast networks' mainstream-movie paradigm in describing Chicago P.D. as "a big, old-time television top-drawer series production."


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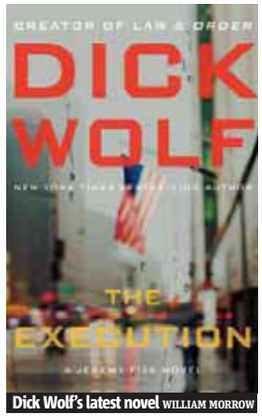
Last week Wolf was also marking the publication of his latest novel.

The Execution brings back NYPD Detective Jeremy Fisk, whom Wolf introduced in his first novel, The Intercept. Now Fisk's Joint Terrorism Task Force is back on high alert as an elusive assassin heads to Manhattan for United Nations Week. "There are stories that are just too big for a series episode or even an arc," said Wolf when asked what prompted his literary ventures.

But how did Wolf, with his TV empire to tend, find time to be an author?

"I've got small kids," he replied with a laugh before sharing iPhone photos of his 6-year-old daughter and 3-year-old son. "I have a very pleasant existence in Montecito (Calif.). I'm on a school schedule now, home in the morning 90 per cent of the time. So writing became a routine."

Dick Wolf, left, and actress Mariska Hargitay from Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. INVSION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Dick Wolf's latest novel WILLIAM MORROW

What he called "my quiet hope" is that these thrillers and their hero might inspire an annual Jeremy Fisk miniseries.

But weekly, scripted drama remains Wolf's true forte. He considers himself a businessman generating inventory with a lucrative afterlife as cable repeats.

"The stakes are so huge for the next decade!" he said, picturing the same happy prospect for his Chicago shows.

Meanwhile, he's thinking internationally. He produces a Law & Order edition for the United Kingdom, Law & Order: Criminal Intent in France and Russian versions of CI and SVU, among other global iterations.

"I'd really like that to happen with (Chicago) Fire and P.D.," he said. "Every big city on the planet has a police department and a fire department. How about Paris Fire?"

And all the better if, back home, this domestic duo spawns a third Chicago series. How about Chicago Justice?

"From your lips to Mr. Nielsen's ears," Wolf replied. "But there's no possibility of that happening unless P.D. succeeds. So believe me when I say that our entire focus is getting this one to work."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Liam Payne. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Liam Payne apologizes for living on the ledge

One Direction member Liam Payne says he is sorry for being "stupid and irresponsible" after he was photographed standing on a building ledge 34 stories above the ground.

A photo published Wednesday in British tabloid the Sun shows the boy-band singer standing on the ledge of a high-rise with a city that appears to be London behind him.

The 20-year-old said in a statement that "I regret being there and having a photo taken. It was a stupid and irresponsible thing to do."

He urged fans not to imitate his "extremely dangerous" behaviour.

The band emerged from Simon Cowell's British TV series The X Factor in 2010 and became one of the world's top-selling groups, with three albums topping U.S. music charts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Lohan orders police protection for party

Lindsay Lohan likes to use protection, apparently. While in London this week, the scandal-prone starlet reportedly put in a call to the Metropolitan Police to provide an escort for a 10-foot walk from her car to a venue for a friend's birthday party, according to the Mail Online. Lohan apparently felt she needed the beefed up security detail because of a clutch of paparazzi waiting and she reportedly asked the police to arrest the photographers for loitering. METRO

Lindsay Lohan

The Word

## *Duff needed more marriage stuff from Comrie*

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

It looks like Hilary Duff and her soon-to-be ex-husband, ex-NHL star Mike Comrie, tried marriage counselling for over 18 months before announcing their separation. But in the end, it wasn't enough to save their union as apparently Comrie didn't do "any of the things they'd worked on."

A source (aka: "someone from Huff's PR team") told Us Weekly, "She felt he didn't put enough effort into the relationship," they said. "He never did anything!"

One reason for the not-doing-stuff? Comrie had to retire from professional hockey in 2012 due to a constant hip injury.

A source to Life & Style echoes this sentiment. "He's in the house all day, every day," an insider tells the mag. "It was a strain on the relationship."

The couple announced two weeks ago that they "have mutually decided to an amicable separation" and will "remain best friends and will continue to be in each other's lives." The two are parents to the toddler Luca, of whom they'll have joint custody.

It certainly looks like an amicable split, with Hilary tweeting, "Mike and I are sitting here, we are so appreciative for all of your kindness & well wishes." She continued, "not an easy day but we're getting thru it together."

Gisele Bundchen

## No Superbowl stress in the Bundchen-Brady house

It may be NFL playoff time in the Tom Brady-Gisele Bundchen household, but the stress doesn't carry over at home.

"He's very focused," the 33-year-old Bundchen said of Brady, quarterback for the New England Patriots, in a recent interview. "We are both very supportive of one another in what we do. ... Of course nobody likes to lose.

"Those aren't the best days. He knows he does his best. He works extremely hard."

The three-time Super Bowl champ and his New England Patriots travel to Denver to play the Broncos on Sunday for the AFC championship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twitter

**@solangeknowles**
Just called my bf to report hearing noises in the house. Go to check on my son, only to find out he's been up since 2 too. HE is the "noise".

**@lenadunham**
Did the thing I swore I'd never do: got a public massage at an airport kiosk. It hurts not to know yourself anymore.

**@AnnaKendrick47**
Aren't we supposed to have meals in pill form by now? Cause at least once a week I open my fridge and think "s---, I need to make water"

LIFE 3

# Throw out the style rule book

Fashion magazines often try to rule our wardrobes with a vice-like, arbitrary and undiscriminating grip. No one should dare to brave horizontal stripes. Under no circumstances should any woman in her 40s wear a short skirt. But it's all rubbish really, isn't it? And at the end of the day, don't we have enough intellectual capacity to know when something works and something doesn't? We enlisted Julie Ragolia, the fashion director of Man Of The World magazine who's styled Lady Gaga, to help us throw out the fashion rule book.

**KIT GILBERT**
Metro World News

## Ripped jeans are for teenage girls and Britney Spears only

Ripped jeans are a sign of a journeyed and well-lived life. A hole in the knee reflects a willingness to fall, always an admirable quality in a woman. Paired with a smart clutch and an elegant heel, a ripped jean can be quite chic.

## Wearing one pattern head-to-toe is a bad idea

A woman should never leave the house looking like a tablecloth. Accessories can help prevent that: a great belt, the right bag…solid, strong pieces can tie it all together and break up a pattern before it goes bad. I'm a big fan of patterns overall. Before wearing one pattern head to toe, consider mixing mismatched patterns. It's a surefire way to boldly own a look, and is surprisingly more subtle than one would think.

## Unless you are Alexa Chung, don't attempt to conquer double denim

As a devotee to Ralph Lauren and Levi's, I've been schooled to the contrary. I live for double denim. If tones and fabric weights are in balance, I say try for a triple play. I often wear chambray shirts with vintage jeans and a denim jacket. Throw an oversized Navajo knit cardigan over the shoulder to break things up now and then.

## Midi skirts require six-inch heels

I'm a tomboy, and a busy fashion director, so super high heels are not at all practical on a day-to-day basis. A sleek Chelsea boot or a brogue can look just as sexy with a pencil skirt as any heel.'

## Be wary of costume pieces

To a degree, yes, however one statement piece, such as an oversized necklace, or ski-goggle-inspired sunnies, are costume done right.

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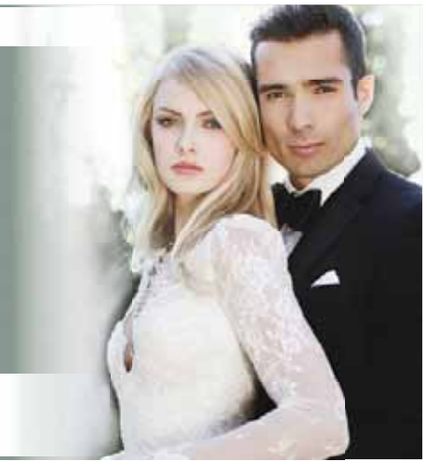


# Portobello and chestnuts: Very earthy duo

This recipe serves six.

The chestnuts add a rich earthiness to this dish and make the mushrooms that much more meat-like.

Look for the largest, juiciest-looking portobellos for this dish. If your mushrooms are smaller, you may have extra stuffing; stir in half a beaten egg and bake in a gratin dish alongside your mushrooms.

**1.** Heat oven to 220 C (425 F). Cut off mushroom stems flush with caps and chop. You should have about 375 ml (1 1/2 cups).

**2.** In a large skillet, heat 30 ml (2 tbsp) of the olive oil over high heat. Working in batches, add mushroom caps to pan and fry for 1 to 2 minutes per side or until just beginning to soften. Transfer gill side up to a baking sheet. Repeat with remaining mushroom caps, adding more oil to pan as needed. Set aside.

**3.** Melt butter in the same skillet over medium heat. Add onions, celery and fennel seeds and sauté for 10 minutes or until slightly caramelized. Add garlic, chestnuts and chopped mushroom stems and sauté for 2 minutes or until mushrooms are juicy. Remove from heat.

**4.** Stir bread crumbs and parsley into stuffing mixture. Add enough apple juice to moisten stuffing well. Season well with salt and pepper. Divide stuffing into 6 portions and place on top of each of the mushroom caps on the baking sheet. Top with remaining 6 mushroom caps, gill side down, to make a kind of sandwich. Do not totally enclose the stuffing. Roast for 15 minutes or until mushrooms are tender and stuffing is crisp around the edges.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ THE FLAVOUR PRINCIPLE BY LUCY WAVERMAN AND BEPPI CROSARIOL. PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN SZULC. PUBLISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS LTD, 2013

**Wine pairing**

White Burgundy: Try this inventively woodsy, earthy dish with a nutty, mineral-laden white Burgundy (such as Macon or, if budget permits, Puligny-Montrachet) and bask in the subtle decadence. Alternative: If you prefer red, uncork a Chianti.

**Ingredients**

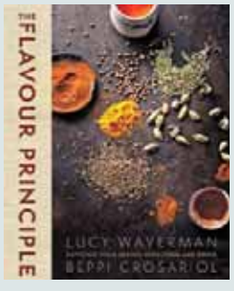
- 12 large portobello mushrooms
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) olive oil, divided

**Chestnut Stuffing**

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped onions
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped celery
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cracked fennel seeds
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped garlic
- 575 ml (2 1/3 cups) vacuum-packed peeled roasted chestnuts (about 400 g/14 oz), chopped
- 1 l (4 cups) fresh bread crumbs
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) unsweetened apple juice
- Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

**Cookbook of the Week**

## Shining the spotlight on taste




The Flavour Principle takes foodies back to the basis of food: flavour.

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# Smart storage for small spaces

From inside secret drawers to above the doors, there's always a forgotten space that can keep useful items out of sight

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

**Q: Although my condo is not small, I seem to have a lot of stuff and not enough storage. I need some ideas for keeping my stuff off the floor and hidden away.**

A: For some people, "out of sight, out of mind" can be dangerous. Without seeing what you have, it could easily be forgotten.

Do you have a growing collection of vintage dishes or too many shoes and accessories? Perhaps it's time to purge some of your stuff instead of storing it somewhere.

But for stuff you don't want to get rid of, there are many places in our homes that are great for storing and displaying, from inside secret drawers to above the doors, there's always a forgotten space that can keep useful items out of sight.

Billy Bookcase (with doors), medium brown, $257, ikea.ca

Bed Lifts, $13, bedbathandbeyond.ca

Lift Storage Bench, $599, CB2.com

### In the sofa

Looking for a new sofa? Choose one that offers a storage drawer under the seat cushion (similar to a trundle bed) or look for a sleeper sofa that offers storage with the mattress.

### Under the bed

Elevate your bed an additional five inches to hide luggage pieces or storage drawers. Rarely used luggage makes for perfect out-of-season clothing storage.

Add an extra shelf in your closet. Hanging a shelf one foot off the floor will instantly give you double the shoe storage and hanging another shelf one foot below the ceiling will offer up extra storage for out-of-season dishes or specialty baking pans.

### A seat with storage

The secret to an organized room is to make the furniture look like it's there for style, not storage. A padded top allows for extra seating in the foyer, at the end of the bed or along an empty wall.

### Other ideas

- Tea cup hooks discreetly installed behind curtains are a great way to hide hanging scarves, necklaces and hats out of sight in a bedroom.
- Adding a 24-inch bracket or decorative floating shelf above your door entrances will help hold small containers or books.
- Think of your china cabinet for more than just dishes. A small-scale vintage cabinet can display books behind glass doors or store shoes below. Consider using vintage china cabinets in bedrooms, bathrooms or front foyer areas (use large ceramic jars on top for all sorts of inventive storage).
- Add doors to your bookcases to get the best of both worlds — to display and hide storage. Top with a piece of frosted glass or stone and you've got a truly custom storage unit with a useable top for serving or display.

# 3 easy ways to dress up a dull dresser

**DIY.** Don't let that old dresser gather dust in the basement — turn it into a fresh, creative storage piece or stunning focal point

Before slipping back into old habits and watching resolutions fade to memories, put your good intentions to work and transform an old dresser into a fresh and creative storage piece.

With as little as a drill, screws, a saw and some wood, it's easy to bring an old waist-high dresser gathering dust in the basement into the living-room limelight.

Finish with a splash of paint and that useless piece of furniture becomes a stunning new focal point.

### Goodbye drawers, hello shelves

Create a more functional living room look by opening up the dresser and replacing the drawers with shelves.

Once the drawers and hardware are removed, creating shelves is as easy as installing mounts and cutting wood to size. For large objects such as storage baskets, remove multiple drawers and install one shelf.

Play around with colour palettes, including a two-tone design with a vibrant interior colour to brighten the space.

### Say aloha to a new kitchen island

Kitchen storage is usually at a premium, and a temporary kitchen island can solve a lot of problems without committing to a full renovation.

**Rehab Addict**

- For more ideas on restoring old parts of your home, tune in to Rehab Addict, Tuesdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT on DIY Network Canada.

While this idea won't fly with a tall chest of drawers, counter-height dressers provide space for food prep and drawers for small kitchen gadgets. Removing the bottom drawers opens up a great hiding spot for clunky pots and pans.

For the countertop, consider either matching it to the kitchen's current design or going with wood to create a handy butcher block.

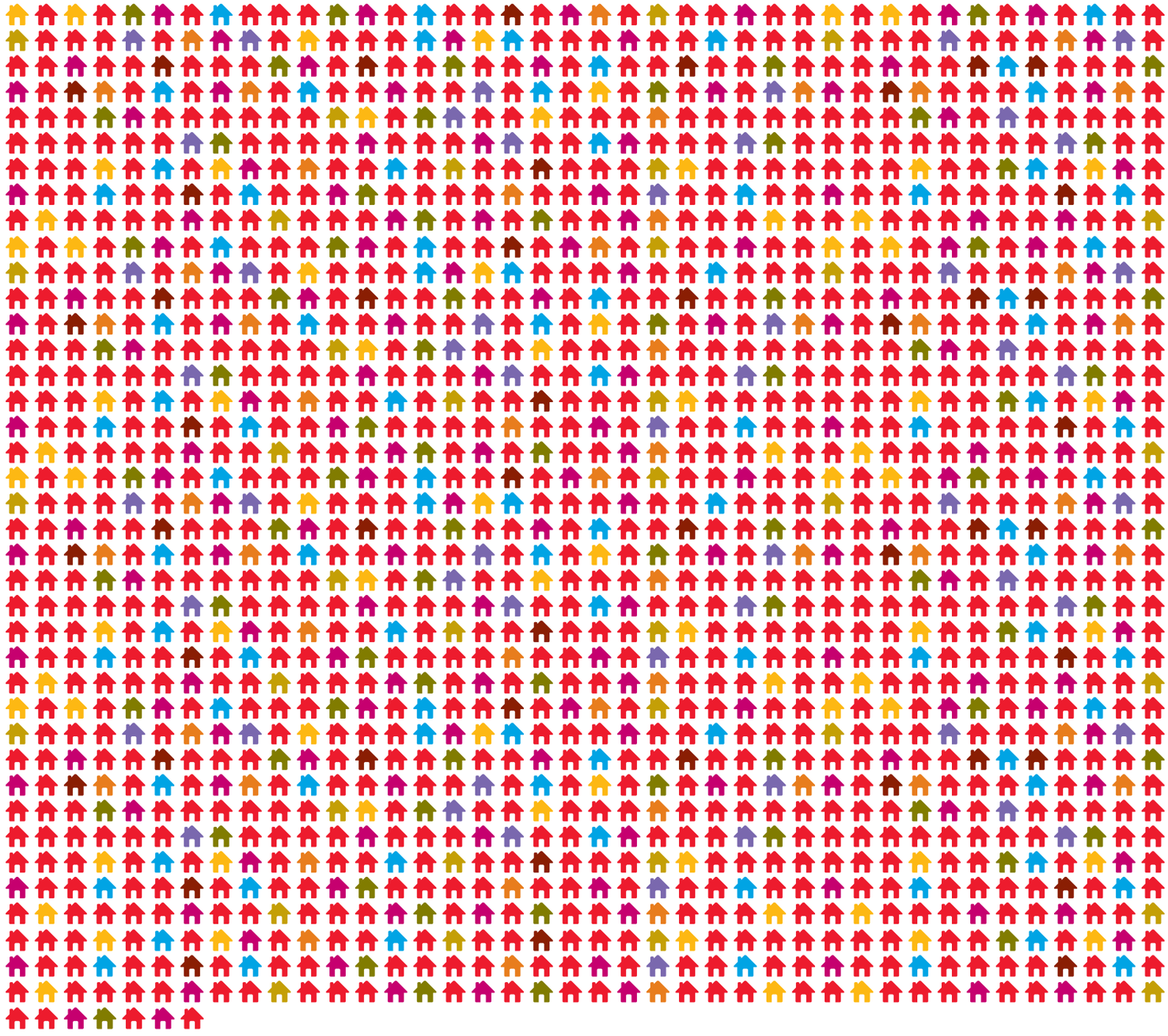
### Take a load off with an entryway bench

Add some extra storage to your entryway while adding a place to sit for tying shoes. This design works best with a short and long dresser.

First, gut the upper half of the dresser by removing the drawers, their supports, hardware and the top. The sides and back can also be removed or kept in as a frame. Next, install a bench on top of the bottom drawers.

It may be necessary to install extra support beneath the bench depending on the dresser's design. Keep the bottom drawers for hiding winter gear like toques and gloves or outdoor toys such as Frisbees, baseballs and mitts.

Turn an old piece of furniture into a stunning storage piece. ISTOCK



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Team Orr's Jared McCann, left, celebrates his game-winning goal with Josh Ho-Sang during third-period CHL Top Prospects action against Team Cherry in Calgary, Wednesday. Team Orr beat Team Cherry 4-3. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# McCann scores goal No. 4 for Team Orr

**CHL Top Prospects Game.** Canadian boys put on a show for Saddledome crowd

Jared McCann of the Sault St. Marie Greyhounds scored the game-winning goal with 3:29 left in the third period to lead Team Orr to a 4-3 win over Team Cherry at the CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game on Wednesday at the Scotiabank Saddledome.

Josh Ho-Sang of the Windsor Spitfires had a goal and an assist for Team Orr, while Julius Honka of the Swift Current Broncos and Aaron Ekblad of the Barrie Colts both had two assists. Brendan Lemeiux, also of the Colts, and Blake Clarke of the Saginaw Spirit also scored for Team Orr.

**On Wednesday**

| 4 | 3 |
|---|---|
| Team Orr | Team Cherry |

Sam Reinhart of the Kootenay Ice and Nikolay Goldobin of the Sarnia Sting had a goal and an assist each for Team Cherry while Michael Dal Colle of the Oshawa Generals also scored.

Playing the second half of the game, goalie Julio Billia of the Chicoutimi Sagueneens made 17 saves to backstop Team Orr to the victory.

Team Cherry held a 14-7 advantage in shots after the first period, but couldn't find a way to get any pucks past starting Team Orr goalie Mason McDonald of the Charlottetown Islanders.

Team Orr carried the majority of the play early in the second and was rewarded when Lemieux redirected Honka's point shot past Edmonds for a power-play goal at the nine-minute mark of the middle frame.

Just eight seconds later, Dal Colle took a pass from Reinhart and wired a wicked wrist shot into the top corner over McDonald's outstretched glove hand.

After Dal Colle's tying goal, Billia took over in net for McDonald, who finished the game with 15 saves.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

## Dodgers' Kershaw getting $215M for his K's: Report

Pitcher Clayton Kershaw agreed Wednesday to a $215 million, seven-year contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press, a deal that makes the two-time Cy Young Award winner baseball's first player with a $30-million average salary.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the agreement had not yet been announced.

Kershaw receives the most lucrative deal for a pitcher, breaking the mark of $180 million set by Justin Verlander last March for his seven-year contract with Detroit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

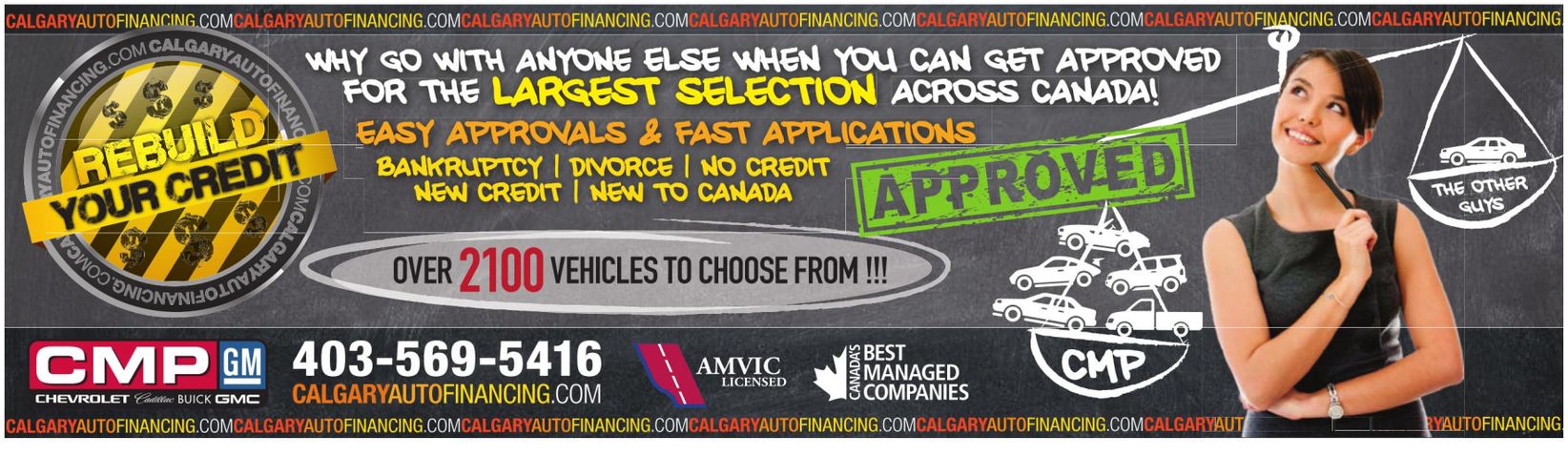
## Just a Maatta of time for Penguins on home ice

Olli Maatta's slap shot beat Michal Neuvirth with less than two minutes remaining and the Pittsburgh Penguins rallied by the Washington Capitals 4-3 Wednesday night.

Maatta's fourth goal of the season gave Pittsburgh its only lead as the Penguins won their 13th straight home game, a club record.

Jussi Jokinen, Taylor Pyatt and Kris Letang also scored for the Penguins. Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 25 shots to pick up his NHL-leading 27th victory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Flames should set sights on Ekblad

Aaron Ekblad of the Barrie Colts in the Ontario Hockey League is NHL-ready in the mind of columnist Brian Costello.
TERRY WILSON/OHL IMAGES

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Brian Costello
calgary@metronews.ca

Flames fans got a good glimpse of the future in Wednesday night's top prospects game at the Saddledome. Of the 40 players in the lineup, there's a good chance two, three, maybe even four of them will be wearing Flames colours in coming years.

With their first two picks sure to be in the top 40, Calgary will increase the number of selections when any or all of Mike Cammalleri, Matt Stajan, Lee Stempniak and Chris Butler are traded before the March 5 trade deadline. Cammalleri is bound to secure a late first-round pick in return. With scoring down in the NHL more than ever, some Cup contenders are willing to trade a high pick in an average draft for a proven spring marksman like Cammi.

Calgary's other UFAs on their way out? Second-round picks or lower — if they're moved at all.

Of course, there's no guarantee interim GM Brian Burke is in the market for picks. He may want proven players or prospects already drafted. Maybe Burke sees goaltending as a bigger need. He may say he'd rather have pet-project James Reimer instead of a first-round pick from Toronto for Cammalleri. I think that would be a big mistake, but I'm just a hockey writer.

In a draft that has stud defenceman Aaron Ekblad and the rest forwards among the top 10, the Flames would be wise to focus on the six-foot-four, 217-pound right-shooting blue-liner. They don't come around too often.

Ekblad could stand to play a tougher, physical game, but he's well-rounded with decent puck skills. One question I get asked by fans is the danger of Ekblad turning into a high-pick Chris Phillips/Bryan Allen type of D-man in the NHL. And that is, a run-of-the-mill 3-4 rearguard who has a serviceable career, but hardly a difference-maker.

Yes, that's a mild risk. But some of the forwards who are drafted among the top five this year will max out as second-line NHLers.

With three OHL seasons under his belt, Ekblad can step in to the NHL next season. In fact, it's important for his development. He needs a greater test than a fourth season in the OHL.

The Buffalo Sabres have drafted a lot of defencemen early in recent drafts. They'll select a forward. The Edmonton Oilers will jump on Ekblad if they're picking second. So should the Flames. Who says hockey in Alberta in March and April won't be exciting.

**Picks or proven players?**

**"(Brian Burke) may say he'd rather have pet-project James Reimer instead of a first-round pick from Toronto for Cammalleri. I think that would be a big mistake."**

## NHL

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

**ATLANTIC DIVISION**

| | GP | W | L | OL | GF | GA | Pt |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 46 | 29 | 15 | 2 | 132 | 102 | 60 |
| Tampa Bay | 47 | 28 | 15 | 4 | 136 | 113 | 60 |
| Montreal | 47 | 26 | 16 | 5 | 118 | 111 | 57 |
| Toronto | 49 | 24 | 20 | 5 | 136 | 149 | 53 |
| Detroit | 46 | 20 | 16 | 10 | 118 | 127 | 50 |
| Ottawa | 47 | 21 | 18 | 8 | 134 | 146 | 50 |
| Florida | 46 | 18 | 21 | 7 | 109 | 141 | 43 |
| Buffalo | 46 | 13 | 27 | 6 | 83 | 129 | 31 |

**METROPOLITAN DIVISION**

| | GP | W | L | OL | GF | GA | Pt |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pittsburgh | 48 | 34 | 12 | 2 | 156 | 115 | 70 |
| Philadelphia | 47 | 24 | 19 | 4 | 125 | 132 | 52 |
| Washington | 47 | 22 | 17 | 8 | 140 | 141 | 52 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 48 | 24 | 21 | 3 | 119 | 126 | 51 |
| New Jersey | 48 | 20 | 18 | 10 | 112 | 118 | 50 |
| Columbus | 46 | 22 | 20 | 4 | 129 | 131 | 48 |
| Carolina | 46 | 19 | 18 | 9 | 111 | 130 | 47 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 48 | 18 | 23 | 7 | 132 | 156 | 43 |

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

**CENTRAL DIVISION**

| | GP | W | L | OL | GF | GA | Pt |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicago | 49 | 30 | 8 | 11 | 177 | 135 | 71 |
| St. Louis | 45 | 32 | 8 | 5 | 163 | 100 | 69 |
| Colorado | 46 | 29 | 12 | 5 | 135 | 117 | 63 |
| Minnesota | 49 | 25 | 19 | 5 | 118 | 122 | 55 |
| Dallas | 46 | 21 | 18 | 7 | 132 | 141 | 49 |
| Nashville | 48 | 20 | 21 | 7 | 113 | 143 | 47 |
| Winnipeg | 48 | 20 | 23 | 5 | 133 | 146 | 45 |

**PACIFIC DIVISION**

| | GP | W | L | OL | GF | GA | Pt |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anaheim | 48 | 35 | 8 | 5 | 161 | 119 | 75 |
| San Jose | 47 | 29 | 12 | 6 | 150 | 117 | 64 |
| Los Angeles | 47 | 28 | 14 | 5 | 120 | 96 | 61 |
| Vancouver | 47 | 24 | 14 | 9 | 123 | 115 | 57 |
| Phoenix | 46 | 21 | 16 | 9 | 135 | 143 | 51 |
| Calgary | 47 | 16 | 25 | 6 | 105 | 148 | 38 |
| Edmonton | 49 | 15 | 29 | 5 | 128 | 174 | 35 |

**Note:** Two points for a win, one point for an overtime or shootout loss (OL column).

**Wednesday's results**
Toronto 4 Buffalo 3 (SO)
Pittsburgh 4 Washington 3
Vancouver at Anaheim
**Tuesday's results**
Colorado 3 Chicago 2 (OT)
Dallas 5 Edmonton 2
Florida 4 N.Y. Islanders 2
Nashville 4 Calgary 2
New Jersey 4 Montreal 1
Ottawa 3 Minnesota 0
Philadelphia 4 Buffalo 3
San Jose 2 Washington 1 (SO)
St. Louis 2 Phoenix 1
Tampa Bay 2 N.Y. Rangers 1
Toronto 4 Boston 3
**Thursday's games — All Times Eastern**
Nashville at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Detroit at NY Rangers, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
NY Islanders at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Boston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Winnipeg at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

### SCORING LEADERS

| | G | A | Pt |
|---|---|---|---|
| Crosby, Pgh | 25 | 42 | 67 |
| Kane, Chi | 23 | 33 | 56 |
| Tavares, NYI | 21 | 35 | 56 |
| Getzlaf, Ana | 23 | 30 | 53 |
| Thornton, SJ | 5 | 45 | 50 |
| Perry, Ana | 25 | 24 | 49 |
| Sharp, Chi | 25 | 24 | 49 |
| Kunitz, Pgh | 24 | 25 | 49 |
| Backstrom, Wash | 11 | 37 | 48 |
| Ovechkin, Wash | 33 | 14 | 47 |
| Toews, Chi | 17 | 30 | 47 |
| Okposo, NYI | 19 | 27 | 46 |
| Malkin, Pgh | 12 | 34 | 46 |
| Kessel, Tor | 21 | 24 | 45 |
| Hall, Edm | 18 | 27 | 45 |

**Not including last night's games**

## NFL PLAYOFFS

### CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Sunday's games — All Times Eastern**
**AFC** — New England at Denver, 3 p.m.
**NFC** — San Francisco at Seattle, 6:30 p.m.

### SUPER BOWL XLVIII

**Sunday, Feb. 2**
**At East Rutherford, N.J.**
AFC vs. NFC champions, 6:30 p.m.

## NBA

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-Indiana | 30 | 7 | .811 | — |
| d-Miami | 27 | 11 | .711 | 3½ |
| Atlanta | 20 | 18 | .526 | 10½ |
| d-Toronto | 19 | 18 | .514 | 11 |
| Washington | 18 | 19 | .486 | 12 |
| Chicago | 18 | 19 | .486 | 12 |
| Detroit | 16 | 22 | .421 | 14¼ |
| Brooklyn | 15 | 22 | .405 | 15 |
| Charlotte | 16 | 24 | .400 | 15½ |
| New York | 15 | 23 | .395 | 15½ |
| Cleveland | 14 | 24 | .368 | 16½ |
| Boston | 14 | 26 | .350 | 17½ |
| Philadelphia | 13 | 25 | .342 | 17½ |
| Orlando | 10 | 29 | .256 | 21 |
| Milwaukee | 7 | 31 | .184 | 23½ |

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-San Antonio | 31 | 8 | .795 | — |
| d-Portland | 28 | 9 | .757 | 2 |
| Oklahoma City | 28 | 10 | .737 | 2½ |
| d-L.A. Clippers | 26 | 13 | .667 | 5 |
| Houston | 26 | 14 | .650 | 5½ |
| Golden State | 25 | 14 | .641 | 6 |
| Dallas | 23 | 16 | .590 | 8 |
| Phoenix | 22 | 16 | .579 | 8½ |
| Denver | 19 | 18 | .514 | 11 |
| Memphis | 19 | 19 | .500 | 11½ |
| Minnesota | 18 | 20 | .474 | 12½ |
| New Orleans | 15 | 23 | .395 | 15½ |
| Sacramento | 14 | 23 | .378 | 16 |
| L.A. Lakers | 14 | 25 | .359 | 17 |
| Utah | 13 | 27 | .325 | 18½ |

**Wednesday's results**
Boston 88 Toronto 83
Chicago 126 Orlando 125 (3OT)
Houston 103 New Orleans 100
Memphis 82 Milwaukee 77
Philadelphia 95 Charlotte 92
Phoenix 121 L.A. Lakers 114
Sacramento 111 Minnesota 108
San Antonio 109 Utah 105
Washington 114 Miami 97
Cleveland at Portland
Denver at Golden State
Dallas at L.A. Clippers
**Tuesday's results**
Charlotte 108 New York 98
Cleveland 120 L.A. Lakers 118
Indiana 116 Sacramento 92
Memphis 90 Oklahoma City 87
**Thursday's games — All Times Eastern**
Brooklyn at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
New York at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Houston, 9:30 p.m.


## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

We're looking for a talented Graphic Designer whose portfolio and experience reflects that of a strong print design background.

In this six-month contract position, the right candidate will join Metro's dynamic and award-winning Creative Services team.

The ideal candidate will have a successful track record of delivering a variety of quality creative and deadline-driven projects in an extremely fast-paced environment. In addition, a solid comprehension of print design and production — specifically for print advertising and online design skills using web-based media — are a definite asset.

**PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:**
- Development of creative executions for in-paper retail advertising, and print production knowledge
- Build strong collaborative relationships with internal and external clientele
- Quality assurance of design and layout prior to sending to clients, high degree of accuracy

**REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION:**
- Skilled in print, online and mobile graphic design, comprehensive and complete software knowledge including InDesign, Adobe Acrobat/Distiller, Photoshop, Illustrator and QuarkXPress
- Proficient on both Mac and PC platforms
- Ability to prep files for print production, including file stuffing (.zip, .sitx, .sit, .sea) and FTP experience
- Professional, personable, approachable with great communication skills (both verbal and written)
- Ability to thrive under pressure in a fast paced, multi-faceted and deadline driven environment with strong attention to detail (typography, copy, grammar, layout, images, colour, etc)
- Must be a quick problem-solver, who initiates projects and takes a pro-active approach.
- Must be highly skilled at multi-tasking, prioritizing workload efficiently, and tracking ad material.
- Post secondary degree or diploma in Graphic Design (Print)
- 3+ years design experience within a media environment

*Interested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resumé and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than Jan. 24, 2014.*

**PLEASE QUOTE: "Graphic Designer - Calgary" in the subject line.**
**All submissions will be treated as confidential.**

metro

## Horoscopes

### ♈ Aries
**March 21 - April 20**
Be honest with friends today, even if what you have to tell them is not what they want to hear. Having said that, maybe what you think is bad news is good news in their opinion.

### ♉ Taurus
**April 21 - May 21**
Any plans you make now are under the influence of the full moon, so try not to take them too seriously. A lot depends on whether you made them rationally or emotionally.

### ♊ Gemini
**May 22 - June 21**
Your ideas are as good as anyone else's but for some reason you think you are not as smart as your rivals. They may have fewer self-doubts but where intelligence is concerned you are way out in front.

### ♋ Cancer
**June 22 - July 23**
You may have a hard time controlling your emotions today but in a way that's good because, as usual, you have been keeping your feelings bottled up inside. Shout and scream if you have to.

### ♌ Leo
**July 24 - Aug. 23**
Don't take it personally if loved ones are hard to get through to today. It seems they have a lot on their minds. If there are issues you need to discuss, wait until tomorrow when they won't be so worried by life.

### ♍ Virgo
**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**
Keep your ideas to yourself and stay tight-lipped even if your best friends ask what you are up to. That applies just as much on the work front. The less others know, the better for you.

### ♎ Libra
**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**
Someone who envies your calm demeanor will turn up the heat today in the hope that you will start to sweat, but what they don't know is that you thrive on this sort of pressure.

### ♏ Scorpio
**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**
Don't get upset if others don't seem interested in what you have to tell them. It's unlikely you will get much sense out of them over the next 24 hours.

### ♐ Sagittarius
**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**
Your words will carry more weight if you keep what you have to say to the point. Don't bother with explanations, just say what you mean and leave no one in any doubt that you mean what you say.

### ♑ Capricorn
**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**
Some people may not deserve your assistance but as the moon is full in your opposite sign, you should be considerate. However, don't be so considerate that you let slip information that could help rivals get rich at your expense.

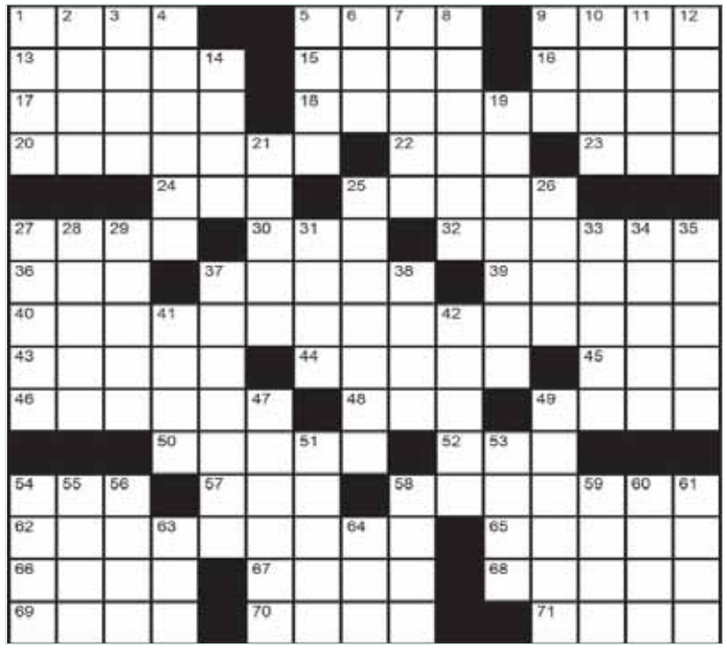
### ♒ Aquarius
**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**
Today's full moon urges you to get your head out of the clouds and focus on the facts. You will have to tighten your belt financially over the next few weeks but it will only hurt if your attitude is wrong.

### ♓ Pisces
**Feb. 20 - March 20**
You may find it hard to stay focused today. You are advised to stop trying and let the cosmic winds blow you where they will. All roads lead to where you are destined to be. Why struggle? SALLY BROMPTON

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



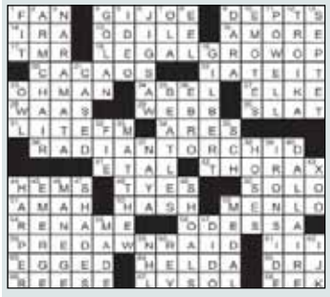
**Across**

1. Canadian singer of "Can't Choose" feat. Kardinal Offishall
5. NHL officials
9. Heel height unit
13. Overseas moneys
15. Medley
16. Casanova
17. Express
18. Canadian talk show icon who early on piloted a helicopter as a traffic reporter: 2 wds.
20. "SCTV" polka duo, The __ Brothers
22. Certain constellation
23. She's opposite
24. Dietary letters
25. Actress Sharon
27. Pairs
30. Lady's love
32. F's music equivalent, _ __
36. Bob & Doug interjections
37. WWI: Canada's coming of age on the world stage
39. Pointing-an-arrow person
40. Route 99's other name in BC: 4 wds.
43. Popeye creator, E.C. __
44. White wine of Italy
45. Fuss
46. Smart __ (Wise guys)
48. Which person?
49. Martha of "Some Came Running" (1958)
50. Writer, Madame de __ (b.1766 - d.1817)
52. Actor Stephen
54. Elvis record label
57. Not their
58. Needle
62. CBC, e.g.: 2 wds.
65. People of the Arctic
66. Fever symptom
67. Novelist Ms. Ferber
68. Canadian lingerie retailer, La __
69. Autoshop repair
70. Rockefeller Center muralist
71. "Begone!"

**Down**

1. Ms. Simpson, to pals
2. Baseball's Babe
3. Apothecary weight
4. Diarists
5. Drove
6. Yalie
7. Last
8. Evening party
9. Pique
10. Chris of "Sex and the City"
11. Aww-inspiring :)
12. Canadian luggage brand since 1986
14. Post
19. The Northwest __
21. Heaves
25. Englishman Archibald Belaney (b.1888 - d.1938) ...during his life in the Ojibwa culture in Canada: 2 wds.
26. __-Tzu
27. W Network's current docu-series "__ & Scott" about Canada's ice dancing champs
28. Tire
29. Meryl Streep/ Julia Roberts movie, "August: __ County"
31. Annoys
33. Direct selling company
34. Novelist Charles' bookish surname (b.1814 - d.1884)
35. Comic legend Richard
37. Saskatchewan city
38. Ex-ruler of Iran
41. Tie accessories
42. Soap brand
47. Food toppers
49. Metric singer Emily
51. Show wear due to wind and rain
53. Greek goddess of discord
54. Carangid fish
55. Press
56. Sentence part
58. Tiff
59. Now, to Nero
60. Pyramids place
61. Louisiana, for one, in French
63. Drenched
64. Time off, slang-style

### Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

**How to play**
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | | | | | 3 | 8 | |
| | 8 | 3 | | | 4 | | | |
| | | 2 | | | 6 | 7 | | |
| 3 | | | | 6 | | | 1 | |
| | 7 | 9 | | | | 8 | 6 | |
| | 2 | | | 3 | | | | 9 |
| | | 6 | 1 | | | 9 | | |
| | | | 7 | | | 2 | 4 | |
| | 4 | 5 | | | | | | 8 |

### Yesterday's Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 6 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 |
| 9 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 7 |
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| 3 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 1 |

## Weather

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|
| MAX: 6° MIN: -2° | MAX: 8° MIN: 2° | MAX: 12° MIN: -3° |

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

**ANDREW SCHULTZ**
**METEOROLOGIST**
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**WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM**

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14T138 • CANADA VALUE PACKAGE
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14T047
$19,998
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14J216
$18,498
OR PAY $112 BIWEEKLY

2014 DODGE JOURNEY RT AWD
14T005 • LEATHER • BACKUP CAM
$30,998
OR PAY $185 BIWEEKLY

2013 GRAND CARAVAN SXT
13T323 • STOW N' GO • REAR A/C
$22,998
OR PAY $138 BIWEEKLY

2013 RAM 1500 SXT CREW 4X4
13T641 • HEMI V8 • 10,000 LB TOW RATING
$31,998
OR PAY $190 BIWEEKLY

LOANER UNDER 500KM

2013 CHRYSLER 200
13C093
$16,998
OR PAY $99 BIWEEKLY

2013 DURANGO SXT AWD
13T594 • 7 PASSENGER V6
$32,998
$197 BIWEEKLY

ULTIMATE FAMILY VAN

2013 GRAND CARAVAN SXT
13T066 • DVD • BACKUP CAM • STOW N' GO
$25,998
OR PAY $156 BIWEEKLY

2013 RAM 1500 BIGHORN 4X4
13T637 • CREW CAB • HEMI V8
$34,998
OR PAY $208 BIWEEKLY

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14J232 • NAV • 6-SPEED MANUAL
$35,998
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14J231 • NAV • AUTOMATIC
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14J002 • CVP • PENTASTAR V6
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2014 GRAND CHEROKEE OVERLAND
14J222 • "THE WORKS"
$54,998
OR PAY $325 BIWEEKLY

2014 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 14J211
SUNROOF • 9-SPEED • V6 • BACKUP CAM
OR PAY $36,399 | $215 BIWEEKLY

2014 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT 14J175
9 SPEED AUTOMATIC • POWER GROUP
OR PAY $24,998 | $142 BIWEEKLY

HOT! TO THE LOT!

$22,998

HOT! 2009 JEEP WRANGLER
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